

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

The House agreed to the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 4297, Tax Relief Act of 2005.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S4241–S4383*

**Measures Introduced:** Nine bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2774–2782, and S. Res. 472–473. **Page S4339**

#### Measures Passed:

**Commemorating Law Enforcement Officers:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 472, commemorating and acknowledging the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as law enforcement officers. **Pages S4379–80**

**National Police Survivors Day:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 473, designating May 14, 2006, as National Police Survivors Day. **Pages S4380–81**

**Honoring NAACP:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H. Con. Res. 335, honoring and praising the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on the occasion of its 97th anniversary, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S4381**

**Health Insurance Marketplace Modernization and Affordability Act:** Pursuant to the order of May 9, 2006, Senate agreed to the motion to proceed and then began consideration of S. 1955, to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Security Act of 1974 and the Public Health Service Act to expand health care access and reduce costs through the creation of small business health plans and through modernization of the health insurance marketplace, modifying the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

**Pages S4262–S4327**

#### Pending:

Frist Amendment No. 3886 (to S. 1955 (committee substitute) as modified), to establish the enactment date. **Pages S4285–86**

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Frist Amendment No. 3887 (to Amendment No. 3886), to change the enactment date. **Page S4286**

Motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, with instructions to report back forthwith, with Frist Amendment No. 3888, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S4286–94**

Frist Amendment No. 3889 (to the instructions of the motion to recommit), to change the enactment date. **Page S4294**

Frist Amendment No. 3890 (to Amendment No. 3889), to provide for the enactment date. **Pages S4294–95**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the pending modified committee amendment in the nature of a substitute and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII and, pursuant to the order of May 10, 2006, the cloture vote will occur on Thursday, May 11, 2006. **Pages S4326–27**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill on Thursday, May 11, 2006, with a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the pending modified committee substitute, to occur following the vote on the conference report to accompany H.R. 4297 (listed below). **Page S4382**

**Tax Relief Extension Reconciliation Act—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that on Thursday, May 11, 2006, Senate begin consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 4297, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201(b) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006; provided further, that 8 hours remain out of the statutory time limit and that it be equally divided; followed by a vote on the adoption of the conference report; provided further, that following the vote and notwithstanding rule XXII, there be 60 minutes of debate equally divided between the Chairman and

Ranking Member of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions or their designees, prior to a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the modified committee substitute to S. 1955 (listed above).  
**Page S4382**

**National Defense Authorizations—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the order of November 15, 2005 with respect to S. 1042, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006, S. 1043, Department of Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006, S. 1044, Military Construction Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006, and S. 1045, Department of Energy National Security Act for Fiscal Year 2006, be vitiated.

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**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Neil M. Gorsuch, of Colorado, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Navy.

**Pages S4383–84**

**Nominations Discharged:** The following nomination was discharged from further committee consideration and placed on the Executive Calendar:

George McDade Staples, of Kentucky, to be Director General of the Foreign Service, which was sent to the Senate on March 2, 2006, from the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

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**Messages From the House:**

**Page S4331**

**Measures Referred:**

**Page S4331**

**Petitions and Memorials:**

**Pages S4331–39**

**Executive Reports of Committees:**

**Page S4339**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Pages S4339–40**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**

**Pages S4340–42**

**Additional Statements:**

**Page S4330**

**Amendments Submitted:**

**Pages S4342–78**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:**

**Pages S4379–80**

**Privileges of the Floor:**

**Page S4380**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 8:30 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, May 11, 2006. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4382.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### FARM BILL: SUGAR PROVISIONS

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the implementation of the sugar provisions of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, after receiving testimony from J.B. Penn, Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services; John C. Roney, American Sugar Alliance, Arlington, Virginia; Wallace Ellender, III, American Sugar Cane League, Bourg, Louisiana; Steve Williams, Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association, Fisher, Minnesota, on behalf of American Sugarbeet Growers Association; Margaret Blamberg, American Cane Sugar Refiners' Association, Brooklyn, New York; Robert A. Peiser, Imperial Sugar Company, Sugar Land, Texas; Joe Goehring, The Hershey Company, Hershey, Pennsylvania, on behalf of the Sweetener Users Association; and Mrinal Roy, Mauritius Sugar Syndicate and Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture, London, United Kingdom.

### APPROPRIATIONS: MISSILE DEFENSE PROGRAM

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the missile defense program, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General Henry A. Obering, III, USAF, Director, Missile Defense Agency; and Lieutenant General Larry J. Dodgen, USA, Commanding General, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, and U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command.

### WAR IN AFGHANISTAN

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee met in closed session to discuss the current situation in Afghanistan with Lieutenant General Karl W. Eikenberry, USA, Commanding General, Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Dirk Kempthorne, of Idaho, to be Secretary of the Interior.

### LAND BILLS

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests concluded a hearing to examine S. 906, to promote wildland firefighter safety, S. 2003, to make permanent the authorization for watershed restoration and enhancement agreements, H.R. 585, to require Federal land